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db.html). Other appropriate databases include dbEST (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/dbEST/index.html), SwisProt (www.ebi.ac.uk/ebi_docs/swisprot_db/swisshome.html), PIR (www.nbrt.georgetown.edu/pir), and The Institute for Genome Research (www.tigr.org/tdb/tdb.html).

In the claims:

Please cancel claims 3-12 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1 and 2 as follows:

1. (Amended) A substantially purified nucleic acid molecule that encodes a maize or a soybean enzyme or fragment of said maize or soybean enzyme, wherein said maize or soybean enzyme is Methionine Adenosyltransferase.

2. (Amended) The substantially purified nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

REMARKS

With this response, claims 1-2 and 13 are pending. Claims 3-12 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer to the underlying subject matter. Claims 1-2 have been amended. Support for the amendments may be found in the original claims, the specification, *e.g.*, at page 22 lines 1-7, page 23 lines 20-23, and page 226 lines 1-10, and in the sequence listing. No new matter enters by this amendment.

Applicants do not believe that any fees are due at this time. However, should any fees be required for any reason relating to this document, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct the fees from Arnold & Porter Deposit Account No. 50-1824 referencing docket number 16517.214.

I. Restriction Requirement

Applicants maintain that the restriction of Claims 1-13 is improper. Applicants assert that the complete examination of the application would be handled most expeditiously by treating all of the pending claims as a single entity. More particularly, the search of nucleic acid